Organization and Structure of the Military Health System

I. The Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs)

Mission Statement •

To enhance DoD and our Nation's security by providing health support for the full range of military operations and sustaining the health of all those entrusted to our care.

Vision Statement •

A world-class health system that supports the military mission by fostering, protecting, sustaining and restoring health.

Responsibilities & Functions •

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (ASD/HA), is the principal staff assistant and advisor to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness for all Department of Defense (DoD) health policies, programs, and activities. The ASD/HA has the responsibility to effectively execute the Department's healthcare mission. This mission is to provide, and to maintain readiness to provide, healthcare services and support to members of the Armed Forces during military operations. In addition, the Department's healthcare mission provides healthcare services and support to members of the Armed Forces, their family members, and others entitled to DoD healthcare. In carrying out the responsibilities of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (OASD/HA), the ASD/HA exercises authority, direction, and control over the medical personnel, facilities, programs, funding, and other resources within the DoD. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Establishing policies, procedures, and standards that govern DoD healthcare programs
- Serving as program manager for all DoD health and medical resources
- Directing DoD financial policies, programs, and activities including unified budget formulations, program analysis, and evaluation
- Overseeing TRICAREand the consistent, effective implementation of DoD policy throughout the Military Health System
- Directing deployment medicine policies
- Leading strategic planning for the Military Health System
- Maintaining strong communication with the line, beneficiary representatives and associations, the media and the Congress
- Presenting and justifying the unified medical program and budget throughout the planning, programming, and budgeting system process, including representation before the Congress
- Co-chairing with the director, Defense Research and Engineering, the Armed Services Biomedical Research Evaluation and Management Committee, which facilitates consideration of DoD biomedical research

Organizational Chart •



William Winkenwerder, Jr., M.D., M.B.A. Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs)



Edward P. Wyatt, Jr. Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs)



David Tornberg, M.D. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Clinical & Program Policy



Ellen P. Embrey Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Health Protection & Readiness



Nelson M. Ford Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Budgets & Financial Policy



RADM Thomas Carrato Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Plan Administration

Review the functions and responsibilities of the following:

Clinical Programs and Policies:

http://www.ha.osd.mil/cpp/default.html

Force Health Protection and Readiness:

http://www.ha.osd.mil/fhpr/default.html

Health Budgets and Financial Policy:

http://www.ha.osd.mil/hbfp/default.html

Health Program Integration and External Affairs:

http://www.ha.osd.mil/hpiea/default.html

II. TRICARE Management Activity

Review the organization of the TMA.

http://tricare.osd.mil/tma/tmaorganization.html

Health service regions within TRICARE:

http://www.tricare.osd.mil/regionalinfo/

III. Surgeons General

Review the organizations and emphasis of the SGs:

Army:

http://www.armymedicine.army.mil/default2.htm

Navy:

http://navymedicine.med.navy.mil/sq_quidance.asp

Air Force:

https://www.afms.mil/sg/index.htm